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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26584 7590 03/12/2002

OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT  
10 FARM SPRINGS  
FARMINGTON, CT 06032

EXAMINER

TRAN, THUY VAN

ART UNIT

CLASS-SUBCLASS

3652

187-411000

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2002

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/031,108	02/26/1998	PEDRO S. BARANDA	OT-4190	8228

TITLE OF INVENTION: TENSION MEMBER FOR AN ELEVATOR

TOTAL CLAIMS	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
22	nonprovisional	NO	\$1280	\$300	\$1580	06/12/2002

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

## HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
09/031,108

Applicant(s)  
Baranda et al.

Examiner  
Thuy V. Tran

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3652



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed Jan 28, 2002 and telephone conference on Feb 26, 2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-4, 7-13, 16-22, and 71-75.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable as formal drawings.
4. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

6. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7. ☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
  - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☒ hereto    or    2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)         |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____          | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                 |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance           |
| 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |  |

#27D wr  
2.28.02

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### DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Troxell Snyder on February 25, 2002.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 11 and 73 have been replaced with new claims 11 and 73 to include limitations that distinct the claimed invention from the prior art of record.

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--Claim 11 (Three time amended) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, the tension member interconnecting the car and a counterweight, the tension member being engageable with a contoured surface engagement surface of a rotatable traction sheave that is driven by a machine and over which the tension member passes so as to engage the traction sheave between take-up and take-off points on either side of the traction sheave, [of the elevator system,] the tension member comprising:

a load-carrying member; and

a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

the tension member having a width w, a thickness t measured in the bending direction, and an engagement surface that receive the force from the traction sheave as a result of traction

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between the engagement surface and a region of the traction sheave between the take-up and takeoff points, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to the thickness  $t$ , greater than one, and

wherein the engagement surface of the tension member is contoured to complement the contoured engagement surface of the sheave.--

--Claim <sup>20</sup>73 (Twice amended) An elevator system including:

a car;

a counterweight;

a traction sheave having a contoured engagement surface; wherein the traction sheave is driven by a machine; and

a tension member interconnecting [engaged with] the car and the counterweight, the tension member passing over the traction sheave, being engaged by the traction sheave between take-up and take-off points on either side of the traction sheave, [with] and being driven by the traction sheave, the tension member comprising

a load-carrying member, and

a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

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D2 the tension member having a width w, a thickness t, and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and a region of the traction sheave between take-up and take-off points, which force is transmitted to the load carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width w relative to the thickness t, greater than one, and

wherein the engagement surface is contoured to complement the contoured engagement surface of the sheave.--

***Election/Restriction***

3. Claim 2 is generic and allowable. Accordingly, the restriction requirement as to the encompassed species is hereby withdrawn and claims 11, 12, 17, 21, 22, and 73 are directed to the non-elected species no longer withdrawn from consideration since all of the claims to this species depend from or otherwise include each of the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the linked species, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim(s) depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable generic linking claim(s) be presented in a continuation or divisional application, such claims may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting

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rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

4. Claims 2-4, 7-13, 16-22 and 71-75 are allowed.
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy v. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-2558.



EILEEN D. LILLIS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

TVT (TVT)

February 26, 2002

